



Chadderton Education Committee.

Annual Report
OF THE
School Medical Officer
FOR THE YEAR
:: 1923 ::

JAMES WOOD, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.,

*Medical Officer of Health and
School Medical Officer.*

CHADDERTON:

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Education Report, 1923.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

TOWN HALL,

CHADDERTON,

MARCH 6th, 1924.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

Mr. CARTER, Mrs. JACKSON and GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of submitting for your consideration and approval the Annual Report on the work done by your Medical Officer and School Nurses during the year 1923.

The work has been carried out on the same lines as the previous year, no extension of the work having taken place.

At the request of the Board of Education some alterations have been made in the Statistical Tables at the end of the Report.

I beg to acknowledge the valuable help given by the School Nurses, Teachers and others, in the carrying out of this work, and to thank all very sincerely for their co-operation.

I remain,

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES WOOD, M.D., D.P.H.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER.

1. **Staff.**—Clerk (part-time) : Miss H. CHAMBERS.

Nurses : Miss MARY MAXWELL, Trained Nurse.
Miss AGNES RIMMER, Trained Nurse and
C.M.B.

Medical Officer : JAMES WOOD, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

2. **Co-ordination of the work of the School Medical Service with that of other health services.**

(a) **Infant and Child Welfare.**—The record card of a child who has attended the Child Welfare Centre is transferred to the School Medical Department when the child attains the age of five years.

(b) **Nursery Schools.**—There is no Nursery School in the District.

(c) **The Care of Debilitated Children under School Age.**—These Children come under the supervision of the Health Visitors. The Mother is advised to take the ailing child to their family doctor or to attend the Child Welfare Centre and have the child examined by the Medical Officer. If the condition found requires treatment the parent is advised where the necessary treatment can be obtained.

3. **The School Medical Service in relation to Public Elementary Schools.**

(a) **School Hygiene.**—The hygienic conditions of the Schools in this Area were fairly fully reviewed in the Report of 1913. Each year since improvements or further defects have been recorded in the review of the Schools. There is no proper arrangements for drying children's clothes and boots in any School.



The supply of wash-hand basins, towels, and soap is deficient in most of the Schools. Good and efficient use is not made of the supply which is available.

The Water Supply to all the Schools is from the mains of the Oldham Corporation and the Middleton and Heywood Joint Water Board. The supply is constant and of good quality.

The Ventilation of most of the Schools is fairly satisfactory: in one of the Schools it is decidedly inefficient.

Inspection of Schools.

BUSK SCHOOL.

MIXED DEPARTMENT.—Large Room: The defective floor near the Classrooms has been repaired.

Wall dirty and requires decorating. Floor fairly clean.

Classrooms.—Floors clean. Picture-frames dusty.

Walls in all classrooms dirty and require decorating.

Sanitary Conveniences.—Boys' W.C.'s and Urinals: The flags of the Urinal require relaying and proper joints making. (This work has required doing a considerable time now.) A slate is missing from roof of one W.C. There is no woodwork to two of the pedestals.

Girls' W.C.'s and Urinal: W.C.'s clean and in working order. Urinal requires limewashing.

INFANTS' DEPARTMENT AND CLASSROOM.—Cleanliness of floor very fair. Very little dust. Walls require decorating. The cloakroom at the entrance to the classroom is unsatisfactory.

CHRIST CHURCH SCHOOL.

There is a slate off the roof of the new Schoolroom on the West Side.

MIXED DEPARTMENT.—Old School: Floor of classroom VII. dirty. Very little dust in the classrooms.

NEW SCHOOL.—Floor fairly clean. Not much dust. Windows dirty.

Cloakrooms:—Girls' and Boys': Floors dirty.

Sanitary Conveniences: Loose bricks and tile on top of Girls' W.C's.

Boys': Urinal small. Flags require re-laying with proper slope and good joints making.

Playground: A considerable portion of the Boys' playground has been taken to provide additional lavatory accommodation. The playground was on the small side previously.

INFANTS' DEPARTMENT.—Large Room and Classrooms: Floors clean. Practically free of dust.

Temperature of Large Room 51°F., and of Classroom I. 48°F. These temperatures are much too low and every effort should be made to obtain a reasonable temperature so that the children and staff can work in comfort.

One of the doors in the Small Classroom will not close properly owing to a defective catch.

CORPUS CHRISTI SCHOOL.

INFANTS' DEPARTMENT.—Large Room and Classrooms: Cleanliness of floors very fair, very little dust on ledges, picture-frames, etc.

Cloakroom: Floor dirty. Window frames dusty.

MIXED DEPARTMENT.—Large Room: Floor fair, dusty upper ledges.

Classrooms: Floors fairly clean. Very little dust. In classroom IV. there is a broken board near the door.

Boys' Playground: The asphalt is very badly broken.

Cloakrooms.—Boys: Floor fairly clean. Ledges dusty. Girls: Floor dirty. Very little dust in here.

Sanitary Conveniences.—Girls: W.C.'s clean. Boy's W.C.'s and Urinal: Dirty. Water lodges in the passage, flags require sloping properly. Urinal is much too small.

DENTON LANE CHURCH SCHOOL.

LARGE ROOM.—Floor fair—not much dust on ledges.

Classrooms.—I. Standard: Floor dirty. Very little dust. II. Standard: Floor fair. Very little dust. VII. and VIII. (previously Infants' Large Room). Floor dirty. Walls require decorating.

Cookery Room (previously Infants' Classroom). Floor dirty.

Cloakrooms.—Girls': Floor dirty—very little dust. Boys: Dirty floor. Need more pegs for the coats and caps.

Sanitary Conveniences.—Girls' W.C's.: Clean floors. Walls require limewashing. Excreta on the floor of the Urinal. Woodwork of two seats missing.

Boys': Urinal requires limewashing. Part of woodwork of one seat missing. W.C's. floors dirty owing to improper use. The boys' use them as urinals.

The condition of the yard is very unsatisfactory. Owing to its uneven surface pools of water are left after rain and the children have to walk through these to get into the school.

DRURY LANE COUNCIL SCHOOL.

LARGE ROOM.—Four new inverted incandescent lights have been put in here. This will prove a great improvement on the old upright incandescent lights without reflectors.

Cleanliness of floor very fair. Very little dust.

Classroom : Floor fair. Ledges and picture-frames dusty.

INFANTS' ROOM.—Floor moderately clean. Not much dust in here.

Cloakroom.—Floor clean, very little dust.

Sanitary Conveniences.—Girls' W.C.'s : Clean. Broken downspout in Girls' W.C.'s.

Boys : Clean. Some tiles missing from roof of Boys' W.C.'s.

EAVES LANE SCHOOL.

LARGE ROOM AND CLASSROOMS.—Floors clean. Practically no dust.

Cloakrooms : Floors fairly clean. Almost free of dust.

Sanitary Conveniences.—Girls' : Clean. Boys' : Clean. Joint of one W.C. leaks slightly and should be repaired.

EUSTACE STREET COUNCIL SCHOOL.

MIXED DEPARTMENT.—Large Hall : Cleanliness of floor very fair. New inverted incandescent lights have been provided in the Hall.

Classrooms : Floors moderately clean. Offensive smell from radiator (gas) in No. II. New inverted incandescent lights have been put into two classrooms. Windows dirty.

Cloakrooms.—Boys' and Girls' : Cleanliness of floors very fair. Very little dust on ledges. In Girls' Cloakroom there are two long lengths of rail loose—these require fixing properly without delay.

Globes on incandescent lights require cleaning.

Playgrounds.—Boys' : Gully taking water from boys' wash-hand basins is blocked. Surfaces in very good condition.

Sanitary Conveniences.—Girls' W.C.'s require limewashing. Boys' W.C.'s and Urinal require limewashing. All in working order.

INFANTS' DEPARTMENT.—Large Room : Floor clean. Very little dust.

Classrooms : Floors fairly clean. Dusty window frames, ledges, and picture frames.

Cloakroom : Floor moderately clean.

Sanitary Conveniences.—Girls' W.C.'s require limewashing. Boys' W.C.'s require limewashing. All in working order.

MIDDLETON JUNCTION SCHOOL.

INFANTS' DEPARTMENT AND CLASSROOM.—Floors dirty. Very little dust in these rooms.

Cloakroom : Floor fairly clean.

MIXED DEPARTMENT.—Large Room : Floor dirty—requires repairing near staircase leading to Classrooms.

Classroom I. : Floor dirty. Very little dust.

Classroom II. : Floor dirty. Very little dust.

Cloakrooms :—Girls' and Boys' : Floors dirty. Not much dust.

Sanitary Conveniences.—Girls' W.C's. : Dirty floors. Walls require limewashing. Boys' W.C's and Urinal : Pedestals Dirty. Walls require limewashing. Some slates broken on one W.C.

Electric lighting has been installed in the School. No reflectors have been provided.

MILLS HILL SCHOOL.

INFANTS' DEPARTMENT.—Large Room and Classroom : Floors moderately clean. Very little dust in these rooms.

MIXED DEPARTMENT.—Large Room : Floor fairly clean. Very little dust.

Classroom I. : Floor dirty. Very little dust in here.

Cloakrooms.—Girls' and Boys' : Floors fairly clean.

Sanitary Conveniences.—Girls' W.C's. : All clean. Boys' W.C's. : Floor very wet. Urinal too small.

ST. LUKE'S CHURCH SCHOOL.

MIXED DEPARTMENT.—Large Room : Floor dirty. Very little dust.

The floor is defective in several places and requires repairing.

Classroom I. : Floor dirty. Very little dust.

Classrooms II. and III., IV. and V. : Dirty floors. Upper ledges and picture-frames dusty.

Cloakrooms.—Girls' : Floor fairly clean. Not much dust. Boys' : Floor fairly clean. Ledges dusty.

Sanitary Conveniences.—Boys' W.C.'s : Floors dirty. Walls require limewashing. Urinal floor dirty.

Girls' : Clean except one. All in order. Some of the drains are being re-laid.

INFANTS' DEPARTMENT.—Large Room : Floor dirty. Very little dust. Defective boards in floor—require repairing in several places.

Classroom : Floor dirty. Very little dust.

ST. MARK'S CHURCH SCHOOL.

MIXED DEPARTMENT.—Walls require decorating. Floor fairly clean. Upper ledges dusty. Windows dirty. Globes of incandescent lights require cleaning.

Middle Room: Offensive smell from radiator (gas). All windows closed—stuffy atmosphere. Floor fairly clean. Very little dust. Walls require decorating. No globes on the incandescent lights.

Classroom: Walls require decorating. Very little dust in here.

Cloakrooms.—Girls': Ledges dusty. Floor very fair. No towel. No soap. Walls require decorating. Boys': Cleanliness of floor very fair. Ledges very dusty. Woodwork requires painting and walls decorating.

Sanitary Conveniences.—Girls' and Infants' W.C's. and Urinal require limewashing. Water lodges at top end of the passage. Boys' W.C's. and Urinal: Require limewashing. Woodwork of seats wet and dirty. Gully of urinal blocked.

Playgrounds.—Boys': At present this is being used as a storage place for timber, etc.

INFANTS' DEPARTMENT.—Large Room: Clean floor. Walls require decorating. Broken boards in floor near Head Teacher's desk. Dusty window-ledges. Only one globe to the incandescent lights.

Classroom: Floor clean. Loose board in floor. Windows dirty. Upper window-ledges very dusty. Globes dirty.

Cloakroom: Floor very wet and thick with dirt. Ledges dusty. Walls require decorating and woodwork painting. In its present condition it is unfit to be used as a cloakroom.

ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH SCHOOL.

MIXED DEPARTMENT.—Large Room: Floor moderately clean. Very little dust.

Classroom: Floor has been re-laid. Upper window-frames dusty.

INFANTS' ROOM.—Floor has been re-laid. Moderately clean floor. Picture frames dusty.

Cloakrooms.—Boys' : Requires limewashing. Girls' : Clean.

Sanitary Conveniences.—Girls' W.C.'s : There are some bricks loose in the wall at the entrance. Boys' : Clean.

The Outside of the School has been painted since last Report.

STANLEY ROAD COUNCIL SCHOOL.

INFANTS' DEPARTMENT.—Large Room : Cleanliness of floor fair. Dusty window-frames and picture-frames.

Classrooms.—A and C : Floors fairly clean. Dusty picture-frames, ledges and window-frames.

Classrooms.—B and D : Floors clean. In D picture-frames and window-frames dusty.

Classroom.—E : Floor very fair.

Teachers' Room : Floor fair. Almost free of dust.

Cloakrooms : Floors fairly clean.

Sanitary Conveniences.—Boys' W.C.'s and Urinal : Clean and in working order. Girls' W.C.'s : Woodwork of one seat broken.

SENIOR DEPARTMENT.—Large Hall : Floor dirty. Dusty ledges.

Old Science Room : Floor dirty. Dusty window-frames and picture-frames.

Classrooms I., IV. and VI. : Floors dirty. Dusty picture-frames and window-frames.

Classrooms II., III. and V. : Floors fairly clean. Too much dust in these rooms.

Cookery Room : Floor dirty.

Cloakrooms.—Girls' : Floor fair. Dusty window-frames. Boys' : Smell of gas in here. Very little dust in this room.

Water-tap supplying Head Master's wash-hand basin requires attention.

Cloakroom near Cookery Room: Floor clean. Very little dust.

JUNIOR DEPARTMENT.—Large Hall: Floor fairly clean. Dusty ledges and picture-frames.

Classrooms A and C: Floors dirty. Dusty ledges and window-frames.

Classrooms D and E: Floors fairly clean. Dusty window-frames and picture-frames.

Teachers' Room: Dirty Floor.

Cloakrooms: Girls': Cleanliness of floor very fair. Ledges dusty. Boys': Floor clean. Dusty ledges and window-frames.

Sanitary Conveniences.—Girls': Clean. All in good condition.

Boys': W.C's. Several dirty, apparently these are used as urinals. This misuse of the W.C's. should be prevented. The Committee might consider some alteration to the Urinal so as to afford better accommodation.

Playgrounds: Surfaces in good condition.

4. **Medical Inspection.**

- (a) The age groups of the children inspected are
 (1) Entrants, (2) Intermediates, 8 years old, and
 (3) Leavers, 12 years old.
- (b) The Board's Schedule of Medical Inspection has been followed.
- (c) The Teachers, Attendance Officers and School Nurses are on the look out for children who have crippling defects. These are reported to the School Medical Officer.
- (d) There is very little disturbance of the School arrangements by the Medical Inspection. No complaint was made during the year.

All the Inspections take place on the School premises except at Mills Hill Council School and Middleton Junction Council School. Permission has been obtained from the Board of Education for the inspections to be held off the School premises in these two cases.

Sixty-seven Medical Inspections were held during the year.

TABLE.—Height and Weight.

BOYS.

Age	No. Exam'd	Height inches	Standard Height inches	Height Cms.	Standard Height Cms	Weight lbs.	Standard Weight lbs.	Weight Kilos.	Standard Weight Kilos.
5	206	41·4	40·4	105·1	102·6	40·59	38·67	18·36	17·54
6	48	43·3	42·4	110·0	107·7	44·03	42·96	19·97	19·49
7	12	45·2	44·9	114·8	114·1	47·46	46·67	21·54	21·18
8	217	47·1	46·6	119·6	118·4	50·71	49·86	23·02	22·62
12	241	54·3	54·9	137·9	139·4	69·82	72·51	31·68	32·89
13	51	55·0	55·7	139·7	141·5	74·97	76·91	33·98	34·88

GIRLS.

Age	No. Exam'd	Height inches	Standard Height inches	Height Cms.	Standard Height Cms.	Weight lbs.	Standard Weight lbs.	Weight Kilos	Standard Weight Kilos.
5	177	41·3	40·1	104·9	101·8	39·52	37·44	17·92	16·97
6	50	43·2	42·1	109·7	105·9	42·51	40·83	19·28	18·52
7	14	45·5	44·5	115·5	113·0	45·77	45·10	20·76	20·46
8	250	46·4	46·1	117·9	117·1	47·21	48·68	21·42	22·08
12	216	54·4	54·6	138·2	138·7	69·30	73·28	31·44	33·23
13	45	56·2	56·6	142·8	143·7	78·13	79·54	35·44	36·08

The standard height and weight given in the above table is for children in the North of England, and is taken from the table prepared by Doctors A. W. Tuxford and R. Ashleigh Glegg.

TABLE showing the number of Children Examined in the various Schools during 1923.

SCHOOL.	Entrants		Intermediates		Other Ages (7, 9, 10, 11)		Leavers		Totals		Grand Totals
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	
Busk	12	16	25	22	1	2	25	17	63	57	120
Christ Church	22	27	17	16	2	...	35	31	76	74	150
Corpus Christi	7	8	...	1	2	4	27	24	36	37	73
Denton Lane .....	...	...	18	19	...	1	21	11	39	31	70
Drury Lane	28	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	28	20	48
Eaves Lane	12	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	10	22
Eustace Street.....	55	48	36	48	4	10	45	28	140	134	274
Middleton Junction	17	15	20	18	2	1	19	13	58	47	105
Mills Hill	11	12	8	2	3	1	26	37	48	52	100
St. Luke's	30	14	28	40	4	3	21	21	83	78	161
St. Mark's.....	17	16	9	5	1	...	20	30	47	51	98
St. Matthew's	11	10	7	15	...	...	17	12	35	37	72
Stanley Road	32	31	49	64	2	2	37	37	120	134	254
Totals	254	227	217	250	21	24	293	261	785	762	1547

5. Findings of Medical Inspection. Review of the facts disclosed by Medical Inspection.

- (a) **Uncleanliness.** At Routine Medical Inspection 175 children were found to have dirty heads and 44 dirty bodies. 23 of the former were referred for treatment owing to their verminous condition. During the previous year 226 children were found to have dirty heads (29 referred for treatment) and 41 dirty bodies. No case of Vermin on the body was found during the year 1923.
- (b) **Minor Ailments.** 194 children were referred for treatment of minor ailments. Most of these cases were treated at the School Clinic.
- (c) **Tonsils and Adenoids.** 23 children with enlarged Tonsils, Adenoids or both were referred for treatment; whilst 24 were kept under observation. 36 children were operated upon during the year, nine of these being under the Local Authority's Scheme.
- (d) **Tuberculosis.** No case of definite tuberculosis of the lungs was found. One child was referred to the Tuberculosis Dispensary as a suspected case of pulmonary tuberculosis. Two children were found to have tubercular glands and were referred for treatment. One case of tuberculosis of the skin was found and referred for treatment.
One case of tuberculosis of bone and two other forms were also seen and kept under observation.
- (e) **Skin Diseases.** One child was found affected with ringworm of the scalp and was referred for treatment. No case of ringworm of the body was found. 33 cases of Impetigo were found, 15 of whom were referred for treatment, and 71 had other affections of the skin, 13 of these were referred for treatment. No case of Scabies was found.

As Specials the following cases were found: Ringworm of Scalp, 31; Ringworm of Body, 17; Scabies, 4; Impetigo, 87; other Diseases of the Skin, 60. All the cases of Ringworm and Scabies were referred for treatment, as were 78 of the cases of Impetigo and 39 with other diseases of the skin.

- (f) **External Eye Diseases.** 58 cases of external eye disease were found, 39 of which were referred for treatment. 67 children examined as Specials had some form of external eye disease. 53 of these were referred for treatment.

- (g) **Vision.** 168 children were found to have Defective Vision and 42 were affected with Squint at Routine Medical Inspection. 145 of the former and 23 of the latter were referred for treatment.

Of the Specials examined 169 had Defective Vision and 27 Squint: of these 153 and 26 respectively were referred for treatment.

- (h) **Ear Disease and Hearing.** During Routine Medical Inspection 10 cases of defective hearing were found. Two of these were referred for treatment. 130 other ear diseases were found—most of these were cases of Cerumen in the ear passages. 126 were referred for treatment.

Of the Specials examined three had Otitis Media and were referred for treatment, whilst 38 had other affections of the ear, 26 of these were referred for treatment.

- (i) **Dental Defects.** A great number of children at all ages examined were found to have defective teeth. Of the Entrants examined 44·6 per cent. had four or more defective teeth; of the Intermediates 40·8 per cent.; and of the Leavers 13·8 per cent. 1,547

children were examined, and 494, or 31·9 per cent., had four or more defective teeth. In 1915 the figures were 1,348 children examined, of whom 629, or 46·7 per cent., had four or more teeth defective. Of the Entrants 56·9 per cent. had four or more defective teeth, of the Intermediates 58·1 per cent., and of the Leavers 32·5 per cent.

- (j) **Crippling Defects.** 75 children were found to have Rickets. One case was sent for treatment. Advice was given on feeding, fresh air, rest, &c.

Two cases of Spinal Curvature were seen.

6. **Infectious Diseases.** When any school child is affected with an infectious disease, notice is sent to the Head Teacher of the School informing him or her of the fact. If any other child or children from the same house attend School the necessary instructions are given as to excluding these children. Later a further communication is sent stating when the child or children can be re-admitted to School.

If infectious disease prevails in a part of the district or in a School, the School Nurses visit the Schools in that area oftener to detect, if possible, cases in the early stages. The School Medical Officer also visits to examine children, to confer with the Head Teacher, and advise as to the most appropriate steps to be taken.

No class or School was closed during the year for infectious disease.

7. **Following Up.** Special "following up" cards are used for children found suffering from physical defects. One side is used for noting the particulars respecting the child, such as the name, address, age, School, and

defect or defects from which the child suffers. The opposite side is used to record the visits to the home, the advice given, treatment received (if any), and the progress of the case. The School Nurses visit the homes from time to time and interview the parents—generally the mother—on each occasion if possible. In some instances the visits have to be continued for many months before treatment is obtained.

During the year the School Nurses made 1,620 home visits, and 297 visits to the Schools.

8. **Medical Treatment.**

- (a) **Minor Ailments.** Most of the children found suffering from minor ailments attend the School Clinic for treatment; a few are taken to their own Medical Attendant or to a Hospital. In some cases, generally young children living a long distance from the Clinic, home treatment is carried out under the supervision of the School Nurse. In very few instances is any objection to attendance at the Clinic raised by the parent. Many parents bring their children for examination on their own initiative.

During the year 591 children with minor ailments attended the School Clinic, making 12,123 attendances. Of these 415 were cured at the end of the year.

Acting on the suggestion of the Board of Education a scale of payments was drawn up by the Local Education Authority, for the treatment of minor ailments at the School Clinic, and for the "Recommends" distributed by the School Medical Officer for the treatment of cases at the Oldham Royal Infirmary.

- (b) **Tonsils and Adenoids.** The Education Committee have made arrangements with the Oldham Royal Infirmary for the treatment of School children affected with Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids. The Education Committee subscribe £10 10s. per annum and in return get 20 "Recommends." This arrangement has the sanction of the Board of Education.

A number of the parents work in the Cotton Mills or Ironworks and they are able to get a "Recommend" to the Infirmary for the child from the Mill or Works. When a School child is found to be suffering from Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids this is pointed out to the parent if present. If the parent is not present at the examination a notice is sent intimating that the child is suffering from this defect, and the School Nurse visits the home and interviews the parent, at the same time explaining what the trouble is and advising how it can be remedied. A small proportion of the parents prefer to have the operation done at home by their own medical practitioner, and a few prefer to have the operation done at one of the hospitals in Manchester. The total number of children submitted to operation during the year was 36. Nine were done under the Local Authority's Scheme at the Oldham Royal Infirmary.

- (c) **Tuberculosis.** Practically all the cases of Tuberculosis—Lung and other forms—are sent to the Tuberculosis Dispensary for examination and treatment. The Tuberculosis Officer—under the County Council Scheme—arranges for the treatment he considers most suitable, in Observation Hospital, Sanatorium, Hospital, or at home.

- (d) **Skin Diseases.** Many of the cases of Skin Disease are treated at the School Clinic, others attend the Skin Hospital at Manchester, the Oldham Royal Infirmary, or their own Medical Adviser.

189 cases of Skin Affections were treated at the School Clinic.

Four cases of Ringworm of the Scalp had X-Rays at the Skin Hospital, Manchester. .

- (e) **External Eye Disease.** 56 cases were treated at the School Clinic. 49 were cured at the end of the year.

- (f) **Vision.** Children suspected of suffering from defective vision are generally examined at the School Clinic, a few consult an Eye Surgeon, others attend the Manchester Royal Eye Hospital, or the Oldham Royal Infirmary. A number go to Opticians in the neighbourhood.

118 children were examined under the Local Education Authority's Scheme, ten by private Practitioners or Hospital, and 29 otherwise.

96 prescriptions for glasses were given under the Local Authority's Scheme, and 39 otherwise. Of the former 79 had obtained glasses at the end of the year, and of the latter 39.

- (g) **Ear Diseases and Hearing.** During the year two cases of defective hearing were referred for treatment, as were also three cases of Otitis Media. 89 children attended the School Clinic for the removal of Cerumen from the ear passages, and six were treated at home. 66 children with Otorrhoea attended the Clinic, and two were treated at home. Of the former 26 were cured, and 31 were still attending at the close of the year.

The cases of Deafness, Aural Polypi and Mastoid Disease are generally advised to attend the Ear Department of the Oldham Royal Infirmary or of one of the Manchester Hospitals.

(h) **Dental Defects.** At medical inspections advice is given on the care of the teeth. If the teeth are defective the parent is advised to take the child to a dentist for treatment. Many parents are very apathetic on this point, and frequently nothing is done.

(i) **Crippling Defects and Orthopædics.** These cases are referred to Hospital for treatment.

9. **Open-Air Education.** At some of the Schools, when the weather permits, Classes are held in the open air.
10. **Physical Training.** No Area Organiser of Physical Training has yet been appointed by the Committee.
11. **Provision of Meals.** Application for free meals is made to the Secretary for Education by the Head Teacher of the School which the child attends or by the Parent. Particulars of the family income, &c., are obtained, and if found to be below the scale fixed by the Education Committee free meals are granted.

A substantial mid-day meal is provided. If thought necessary the child is submitted to the School Medical Officer for examination. The arrangements work quite satisfactorily.

53 children were supplied with free meals, the total number of meals provided being 1613, at a cost of £50 11s. 2d.

12. **School Baths.** No School in the District is provided with a bath. During the Summer the children in Standard IV. and upwards attend in classes at the Public Baths each week.

13. **Co-operation of Parents.** Notices are sent to the parents a few days before the medical inspection informing them that their child will be examined on a given date. The parent is invited to attend. Defects are pointed out to the parents if present at the inspection and advice is given on treatment and where it can be obtained. If the parent is not present, a notice is sent by the School Medical Officer intimating the defect found, and this is followed by a visit from the School Nurse. A considerable number of parents very willingly take the advice which is given and have their children attended to, whilst others are quite indifferent and put off the requisite treatment as long as possible.

During the medical inspection of 481 Entrants, 304 parents were present or 63.2 per cent.; of 467 Intermediates 198 or 42.3 per cent.; of 554 Leavers 157 parents were present or 28.3 per cent.

14. **Co-operation of Teachers.** The Teachers facilitate the work of medical inspection as much as possible, but do not assist in it. They prepare from the registers the lists of children to be examined. The School Nurses do the weighing and measuring of the children. At times the Head Teacher will interview the parents to persuade them, if possible, to have the children attended to when defects have been found which require attention. With the co-operation of the Teachers, the children who are attending School and are receiving treatment at the School Clinic, visit the School Clinic very regularly in most instances.
15. **Co-operation of School Attendance Officers.** The School Attendance Officers do not undertake any work concerning the medical inspection, but they render

very useful help in the following-up of difficult cases and in obtaining and continuing prolonged treatment, which is apt, in many instances, to become irregular.

Any case presenting special difficulty is referred to them by the School Medical Officer or by the School Nurses acting on his advice.

17. **Blind, Deaf, Defective and Epileptic Children.** The Head Teachers, School Attendance Officers and School Nurses are asked to notify these cases to the Secretary of the Education Committee or to the School Medical Officer. Afterwards arrangements are made for the children to be examined by the School Medical Officer.

This method works fairly satisfactorily. There is no Special School for such cases in our district, but arrangements are made with the County Borough of Oldham to admit suitable cases into their Special Schools. Some Epileptic children are sent to the Soss Moss School which belongs to the Manchester Education Committee.

No special provision has been made for After-Care in this area.

18. **Nursery Schools.** There is no Nursery School in the District.
19. **Secondary Schools.** There is no Secondary School in this District.
20. **Continuation Schools.** There is no Continuation School in the District.
21. **Employment of Children and Young Persons.** There are no half-timers in the Schools now. A small number work out of School hours as newsboys or assist in hairdressers' shops.

All these children are examined by the School Medical Officer and certified as fit to undertake the work stated.

During the year there was no Juvenile Employment Committee working. No special arrangements are made with the certifying Factory Surgeon for the District.

23. **Miscellaneous.** 20 Specimens of hairs and scrapings from the skin were examined for the Ringworm Fungus. 11 proved positive and nine negative.

22 visits were made to Schools by the Medical Officer for various purposes, excluding Medical Inspections.

During the year the School Nurses made 304 visits to the Schools: Busk, 22 visits; Eustace Street, 34; Middleton Junction, 11; St. Mark's, 26; Mills Hill, 13; St. Matthew's, 11; Christ Church, 32; Stanley Road, 44; St. Luke's, 27; Corpus Christi, 26; Denton Lane, 22; Drury Lane, 17; Eaves Lane, 19. No parents were prosecuted during the year.

The School Clinic.

Situated at 90 and 92, Cowhill. The rooms in use are :—
Two Waiting-Rooms for parents and children, one for the Nurses where the treatment of minor ailments is carried out, one for a Consulting room for the Doctor, and a small room fitted up for the examination of eyes, ears, &c.

Opened September 14th, 1914.

The School Medical Officer attends on Monday and Thursday mornings to examine the children, to advise treatment where necessary, and to supervise the treatment of minor ailments which is carried out by the School Nurses.

The Nurses attend at the Clinic each morning at 9-30, except Saturday, the work frequently continuing until 12-30 p.m.

Special times are arranged by the School Medical Officer for the examination of cases of suspected defective eyesight. The parents of these children are interviewed by the Nurses, who point out to them the difficulty under which the children at school are working. The parents are advised to have their children examined, and to purchase glasses if found necessary. After examination, if found necessary, a prescription for glasses is given.

After purchasing, the child again visits the School Medical Officer at the Clinic to see if the spectacles provided are suitable.

During the year 591 children were treated at the Clinic, and 12,123 attendances were made by these children.

SCHOOL EXEMPTIONS.

Number of Exemption Certificates given	...	...	...	1181
Number Certified Fit to attend School	...	...	...	537
				<hr/>
				1718
				<hr/>

Classification of Cases Examined at Clinic.

Abscess...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Adenitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Anæmia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Boils	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Burn	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Chilblains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Debility	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Diarrhœa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dog Bite	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Diseases of the Chest :—								
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	76
Diseases of the Ear :—								
Cerumen	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Deafness	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Otitis Media (Acute)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Otorrhœa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Diseases of the Eye :—								
Blepharitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Cataract	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Conjunctivitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Cyst of Eyelid	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Keratitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Leucoma	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Ophthalmia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Squint	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Staphyloma	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Stye	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Ulcer of Cornea	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Defective Vision	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10

Enuresis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Fainting	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Ganglion	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Heart Disease :—								
Organic	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Functional	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Hoarseness	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Indigestion	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Jaundice	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Headache	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Infectious Diseases :—								
Chickenpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Mumps	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Injuries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Mastitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Nervous System :—								
Mentally Defective	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Chorea	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Epilepsy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Habit Spasm	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Nervousness	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Somnambulist	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Nose and Throat :—								
Adenoids	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Tonsils and Adenoids	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Enlarged Tonsils	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Nasal Catarrh	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Nasal Obstruction (not Adenoids)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Tonsillitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Rickets	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5

Diseases of the Skin :—

Alopecia	10
Cellulitis	1
Dermatitis	1
Erythema Nodosum	1
Eczema—Body	31
„ Head	1
Impetigo—Body	56
„ Head	34
Nits	12
Pediculi Capitis	5
	— 17
Cyst	1
Herpes Labialis	2
Herpes Zoster	5
Psoriasis	1
Ringworm—Body	17
„ Head	31
Scabies	5
Seborrhœa	1
Urticaria	4
Scald	1
Sprain	2
Sores	5
Stomatitis	1
Defective Teeth	15

Tubercular Diseases :—

Foot and Leg	1
Glands	7
Hip	1
Lungs	3
„ (Suspected)	2
Skin	2

CLASSIFICATION OF CASES TREATED AT THE CLINIC.

Number of Children Treated 591
 Number of Attendances 12,123

DISEASE	Number	Cured	Improved	Treated at home	Still attending at end of year	X Rays	Full-time	Skin and other Hospitals	Left the District
Impetigo	103	89	6	2	6	...	...	...	...
Ringworm	49	30	7	...	7	4	...	...	1
Pediculosis.....	6	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerumen.....	95	89	...	6	...	...	...	...	...
Otorrhœa	66	26	5	2	31	...	2	...	...
Conjunctivitis	12	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sores	20	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Blepharitis.....	24	20	...	...	4	...	...	...	...
Eczema	22	19	...	...	...	...	...	3	...
Ophthalmia	17	14	...	...	3	...	...	...	...
Ulcer of Cornea.....	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Septic Wounds	34	33	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Burns and Scalds ...	9	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Boils	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Abscess	8	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scabies	3	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Other Causes.....	116	31	15	2	60	...	8	...	...

Totals..... 591 415 33 12 112 4 10 4 1

Condition as to Vaccination of the Children examined.

ENTRANTS.

0 Marks	.. .. .	360	.....	74.8 %
1 Mark	.....	6	.....	1.3%
2 Marks	.....	17	.....	3.5 %
3 Marks	.....	8	.....	1.7 %
4 Marks	.....	90	.....	18.7 %

INTERMEDIATES.

0 Marks	.....	319	.....	68.4 %
1 Mark	.....	7	.....	1.5 %
2 Marks	.....	20	.....	4.3 %
3 Marks	.....	4	.....	.8 %
4 Marks	.....	117	.....	25.0 %

LEAVERS.

0 Marks	.....	371	.....	66.9 %
1 Mark	.....	7	.....	1.3 %
2 Marks	.....	18	.....	3.3 %
3 Marks	.....	11	.....	2.0 %
4 Marks	.....	147	.....	26.5 %

TABLE I.—RETURN OF MEDICAL INSPECTION.

Number of Children inspected 1st January, 1923, to 31st December, 1923.

A.—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Age	ENTRANTS					INTERMEDIATE GROUP	LEAVERS					Grand Total
	4	5	6	Other Ages	Total		8	12	13	14	Other Ages		Total
Boys	0	206	48	12	266	217	241	51	1	9	302	785
Girls	0	177	50	14	241	250	216	45	0	10	271	762
Totals	0	383	98	26	507	467	457	96	1	19	573	1547

B.—SPECIAL INSPECTIONS.

No. of Special Inspections	806
No. of Re-Inspections	1279
Total.....	2085

TABLE II.—Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection in the Year ended 31st December, 1923.

DEFECT OR DISEASE.	ROUTINE INSPECTIONS.		SPECIAL INSPECTIONS.	
	NO. OF DEFECTS.		NO. OF DEFECTS.	
	Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring Treatment	Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring Treatment
Malnutrition.....	...	248	...	...
Uncleanliness (see Table IV. Group V.) .....	...	...	...	...
SKIN—				
Ringworm: Scalp	1	...	31	...
Body .....	...	...	17	...
Scabies .....	...	...	4	...
Impetigo	15	18	78	9
Other Diseases (non-Tuberculous)	13	58	39	21
EYE—				
Blepharitis	34	10	7	1
Conjunctivitis	4	2	32	1
Keratitis .....	...	...	4	1
Corneal Opacities .....	...	3	1	3
Defective Vision (excluding Squint)	145	23	153	16
Squint	25	17	26	1
Other Conditions	1	4	9	8
EAR—				
Defective Hearing.....	2	8	...	...
Otitis Media .....	...	...	3	...
Other Ear Diseases	126	4	26	12

TABLE II.—Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection in the Year ended 31st December, 1923.—Continued.

DEFECT OR DISEASE.	ROUTINE INSPECTIONS.		SPECIAL INSPECTIONS.	
	NO. OF DEFECTS.		NO. OF DEFECTS	
	Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring Treatment	Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring Treatment
NOSE AND THROAT—				
Enlarged Tonsils only	18	24	4	4
Adenoids only.....	2	...	2	3
Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids	3	...	6	5
Other Conditions	26	55	9	11
Enlarged Cervical Glands (non-Tuberculous).....	1	51	2	9
Defective Speech .....	...	33	...	1
HEART AND CIRCULATION—				
Heart Disease: Organic	11	19	4	6
Functional.....	19	17	1	3
Anæmia	2	11	9	18
LUNGS—				
Bronchitis	15	24	23	48
Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases	2	11	...	...
TUBERCULOSIS—				
Pulmonary: Definite .....	...	...	3	...
Suspected.....	1	...	4	...
Non-Pulmonary: Glands.....	2	...	5	1
Spine .....	...	...	...	...
Hip .....	...	...	...	1
Other Bones and Joints .....	...	1	...	...
Skin	1	...	2	1
Other Forms .....	...	2	...	...

TABLE II.—Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection in the Year ended 31st December, 1923.—Continued.

DEFECT OR DISEASE.	ROUTINE INSPECTIONS.		SPECIAL INSPECTIONS.	
	NO. OF DEFECTS.		NO. OF DEFECTS.	
	Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring Treatment	Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring Treatment
NERVOUS SYSTEM—Epilepsy .....	...	...	2	4
Chorea.....	...	...	2	...
Other Conditions.....	...	21	...	13
DEFORMITIES—Rickets.....	...	75	2	3
Spinal Curvature .....	...	2	3	1
Other Forms	7	125	2	2
Other Defects and Diseases	97	77	129	121

TABLE II. (b).—Number of Individual Children found at Routine Medical Inspection to require Treatment (excluding Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases.)

GROUP.	Number of Children.		Percentage of Children found to require Treatment.
	Inspected.	Found to require Treatment.	
CODE GROUPS: Entrants.....	481	111	23.07
Intermediates ...	467	133	28.47
Leavers	554	157	28.33
Total (Code Groups)	1502	401	26.69
Other Routine Inspections	45	10	22.2

TABLE III.—Return of all Exceptional Children in the Area.

	Boys	Girls	Total
BLIND (including Partially Blind).—(1) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the totally blind			
Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the Blind...	1	0	1
Attending Public Elementary Schools ...	0	0	0
At other Institutions ...	0	0	0
At no School or Institution ...	0	0	0
(2) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the partially blind			
Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the Blind ...	0	4	4
Attending Public Elementary Schools ...	0	1	1
At other Institutions ...	0	0	0
At no School or Institution ...	0	0	0
DEAF (including Deaf and Dumb and Partially Deaf).—			
(1) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the totally deaf or deaf and dumb			
Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the deaf ...	1	1	2
Attending Public Elementary Schools ...	0	0	0
At other Institutions ...	0	0	0
At no School or Institution ...	0	0	0
(2) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the partially deaf :			
Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the deaf...	0	3	3
Attending Public Elementary Schools ...	0	0	0
At other Institutions ...	0	0	0
At no School or Institution ...	0	0	0
MENTALLY DEFECTIVE. —Feeble Minded (cases not notifiable to the Local Control Authority) :			
Attending Certified Schools for mentally defective children ...	5	3	8
Attending Public Elementary Schools ...	0	1	1
At other Institutions ...	0	0	0
At no School or Institution ...	3	1	4
Notified to the Local Control Authority during the year ;			
Feeble Minded...	0	0	0
Imbeciles ...	0	0	0
Idiots ...	0	0	0
EPILEPTICS. —Suffering from Severe Epilepsy :			
Attending Certified Special Schools for Epileptics ...	1	2	3
In Institutions other than Certified Special Schools ...	0	0	0
Attending Public Elementary Schools ...	0	0	0
At no School or Institution...	2	0	2

TABLE III.—Return of all Exceptional Children in the Area—continued.

	Boys	Girls	Total
EPILEPTICS.—Suffering from Epilepsy which is not severe:			
Attending Public Elementary Schools ...	4	4	8
At no School or Institution ...	0	0	0
PHYSICALLY DEFECTIVE.—Infectious Pulmonary and Glandular Tuberculosis:			
At Sanatoria or Sanatorium Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board ...	0	0	0
At other Institutions ...	0	0	0
At no School or Institution ...	2	2	4
Non-infectious but active Pulmonary and Glandular Tuberculosis:			
At Sanatoria or Sanatorium Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or by the Board ...	0	0	0
At Certified Residential Open Air Schools ...	0	0	0
At Certified Day Open Air Schools ...	0	0	0
At Public Elementary Schools ...	3	2	5
At other Institutions ...	0	0	0
At no School or Institution ...	1	2	3
Delicate Children (<i>e.g.</i> pre or latent tuberculosis, mal-nutrition, debility, anæmia, etc.): At Certified Residential Open Air Schools ...	0	0	0
At Certified Day Open Air Schools ...	0	0	0
At Public Elementary Schools ...	113	153	266
At other Institutions ...	0	0	0
At no School or Institution ...	0	3	3
Active Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis; At Sanatoria or Hospital Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board ...	0	0	0
At Public Elementary Schools ...	2	0	2
At other Institutions ...	0	1	1
At no School or Institution ...	2	0	2
Crippled Children (other than those with active Tuberculosis Disease), <i>e.g.</i> , children suffering from paralysis, etc., and including those with severe heart disease: At Certified Hospital Schools ...	0	0	0
At Certified Residential Cripple Schools ...	0	0	0
At Certified Day Cripple Schools ...	1	1	2
At Public Elementary Schools ...	13	19	32
At other Institutions ...	0	0	0
At no School or Institution ...	1	6	7

TABLE IV.—Return of Defects treated during the year ended 31st December, 1923.
TREATMENT TABLE.

GROUP 1.—Minor Ailments (excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Group V.)

DISEASE OR DEFECT.	Number of Defects treated or under treatment during the year.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme.	Otherwise.	Total.
SKIN :—			
Ringworm: Scalp	24*	...	24
Body	25	...	25
Scabies	2	1	3
Impetigo	101	14	115
Other Skin Disease	19	11	30
MINOR EYE DEFECTS :— (External and other, but excluding cases falling in Group II.)	56	12	68
MINOR EAR DEFECTS :—	153	25	178
MISCELLANEOUS :— (e.g., minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.)	194	5	199
* Four of these had X Rays.	574	68	642
Total			

TABLE IV.—(Continued.)

GROUP II.—Defective Vision and Squint (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I.)

DEFECT OR DISEASE.	Number of defects dealt with.			
	Under the Authority's Scheme.	Submitted to refraction by private practitioner or at hospital apart from the Authority's Scheme.	Otherwise.	Total.
Errors of Refraction (including Squint) ...	118	10	29	157
Other Defect or Disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I.) ...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	118	10	29	157

Total number of children for whom spectacles were prescribed :—

- (a) Under the Authority's Scheme ... 96*
 - (b) Otherwise 39
- Total number of children who obtained or received spectacles :—
- (a) Under the Authority's Scheme ... 84
 - (b) Otherwise 39

* Five of these prescriptions were given in 1922, but spectacles obtained in 1923.

TABLE IV.—(Continued.)

GROUP III.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.

NUMBER OF DEFECTS.			
RECEIVED OPERATIVE TREATMENT.		Received other Forms of Treatment.	Total Number treated.
Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital.	By Private Practitioner or Hospital apart from the Authority's Scheme	Total.	
*9	27	36	43

* One of these the Recommend was given in 1922, but the operation was done in 1923.

GROUP V.—UNCLEANLINESS AND VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

- (i.) Average number of Visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses 22'8
- (ii.) Total number of Examinations of Children in the Schools by the School Nurses 7721
- (iii.) Number of individual Children found unclean... 71
- (iv.) Number of Children cleansed under arrangements made by the Local Education Authority Nil
- (v.) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :
 - (a) Under the Education Act, 1921..... Nil
 - (b) Under School Attendance Bye-Laws..... Nil



